



P. O. Box 1150, Alexandria, LA 71309

October 24, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin  
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: WC Docket No. 06-74

Dear FCC Commissioners:

I am writing to urge your approval of the AT&T-BellSouth merger. As Immediate Past President of the National Association of Black County Officials and the Police Jury Association of Louisiana, I have been carefully following the merger's progress and particularly the developments of the past few days. It is clear to me that this merger will serve the public interest and greatly benefit customers of the combined company.

The commitments that AT&T recently announced for much greater broadband affordability and availability are especially beneficial to my Associations. Access to broadband is of great concern to my constituency. Approval of the merger will address this critical need by offering truly affordable and ubiquitous services.

I understand that AT&T has proposed to the Commission a commitment to provide its dial access customers a free modem for upgrading to DSL service.

I also understand the company has offered to make available a \$10 month residential broadband offering as well as deliver broadband capability to all residential units in its combined territory, including lower-income and rural areas. These commitments will help drive high-speed broadband usage and help close the digital divide between rich and poor, urban and rural.

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I urge the Commission to approve the merger of AT&T and BellSouth promptly so that consumers can benefit as soon as possible from the broadband provisions this merger offers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe Fuller

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Immediate Past President

National Association of Black County

Officials

Police Jury Association of Louisiana

Cc: Marlene Dortch, Commission Secretary